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RECENT LITERATURE.

GILBERT'S TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF LAKE SHORES.—This treatise is reprinted from the fifth annual report of the director of the U. S. Geological Survey, and is based on the observations of many years, particularly in Utah, around the shores of Great Salt lake. The author states that the body of the essay was prepared before he met with the writings of Elie de Beaumont and of Cialdi. It is well illustrated with original diagrams and landscape illustrations, some of which we have been permitted to use.

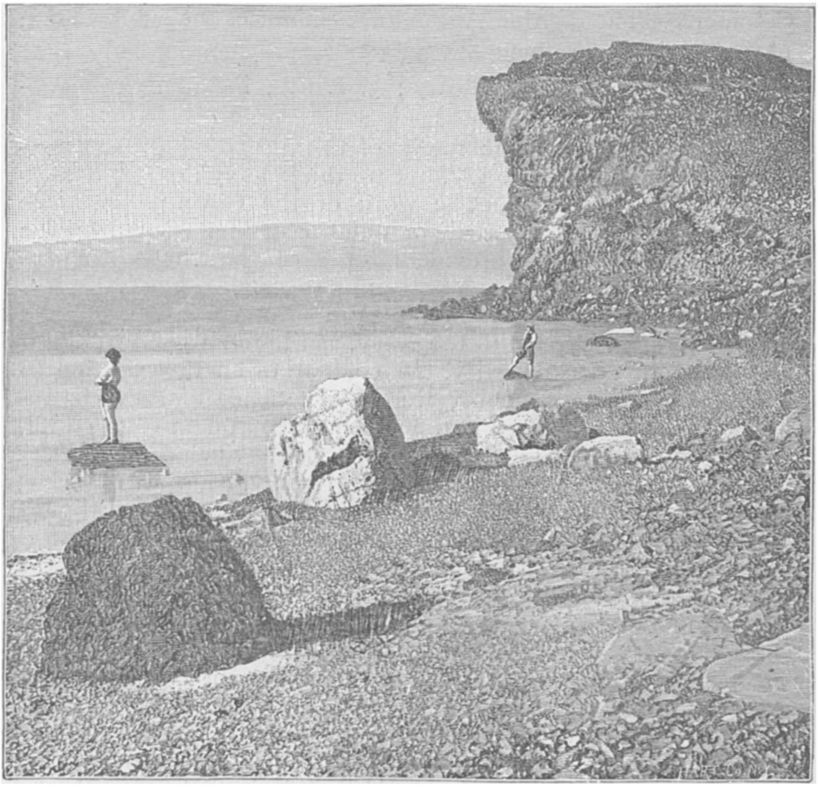
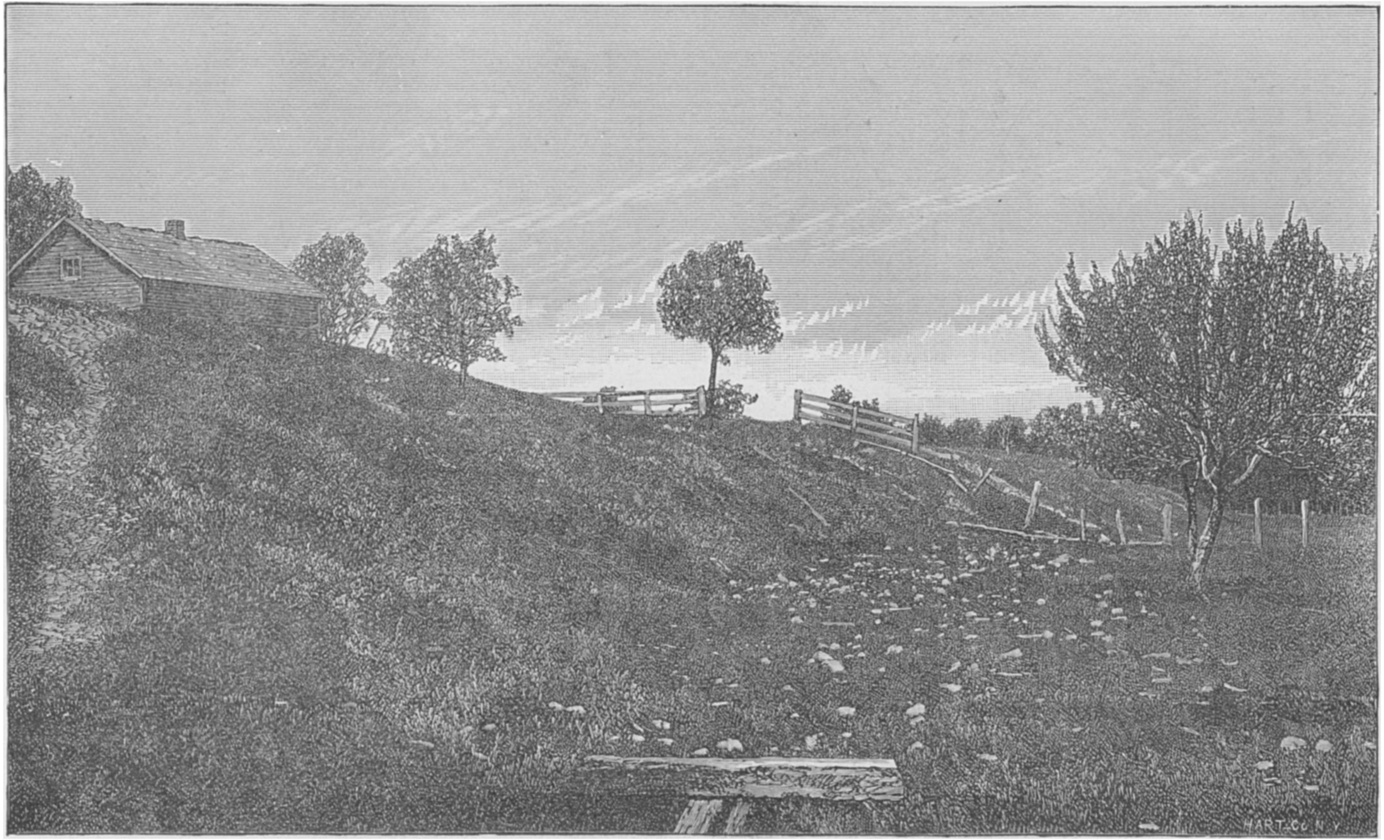


FIG. 1.—Sheep Rock, a sea-cliff on the shore of Great Salt Lake, near the Black Rock bathing resort.

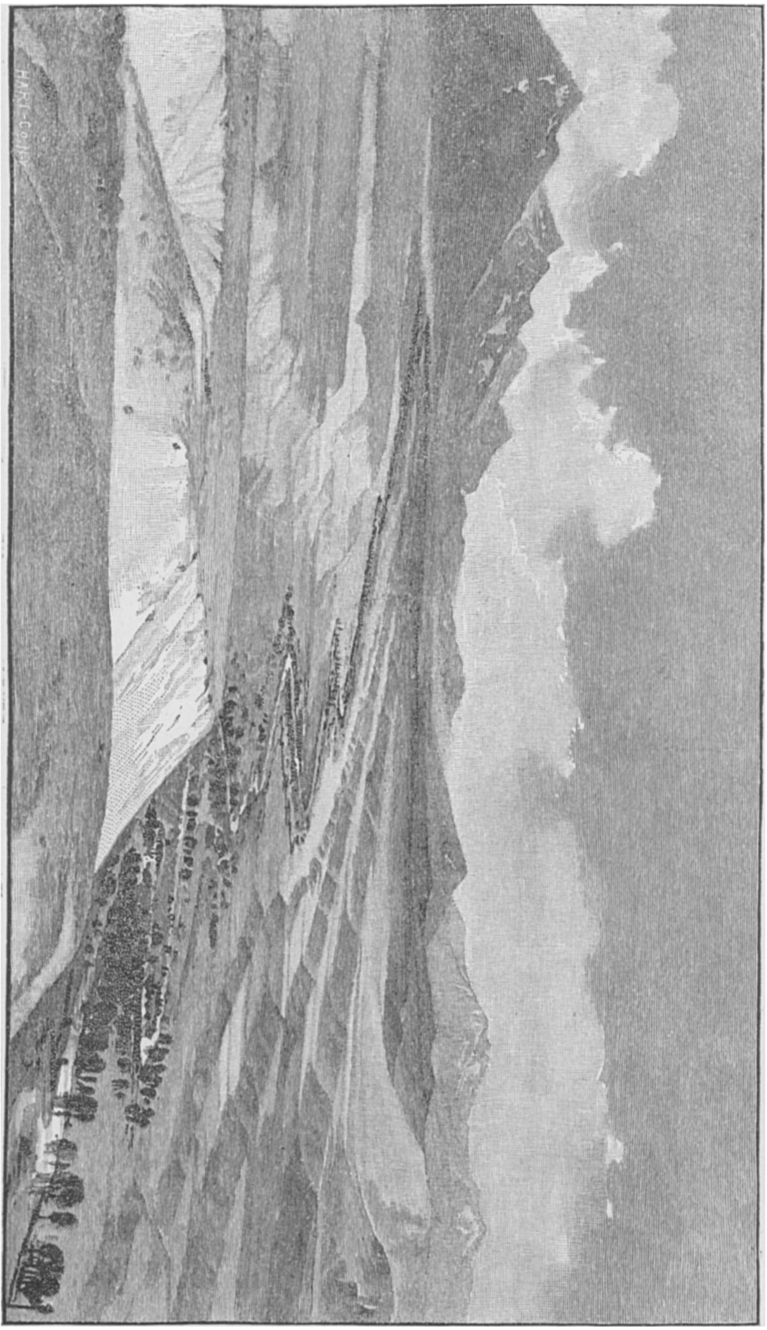
After discussing the subject of earth-shaping, a second section treats of littoral erosion. While the impact of large waves has great force and its statement in tons to the square foot is most impressive, the author believes, as the result of his own observations, that "the erosive action of waves of clear water beating upon firm rock is practically nil. It rarely happens, however,

PLATE XXV.



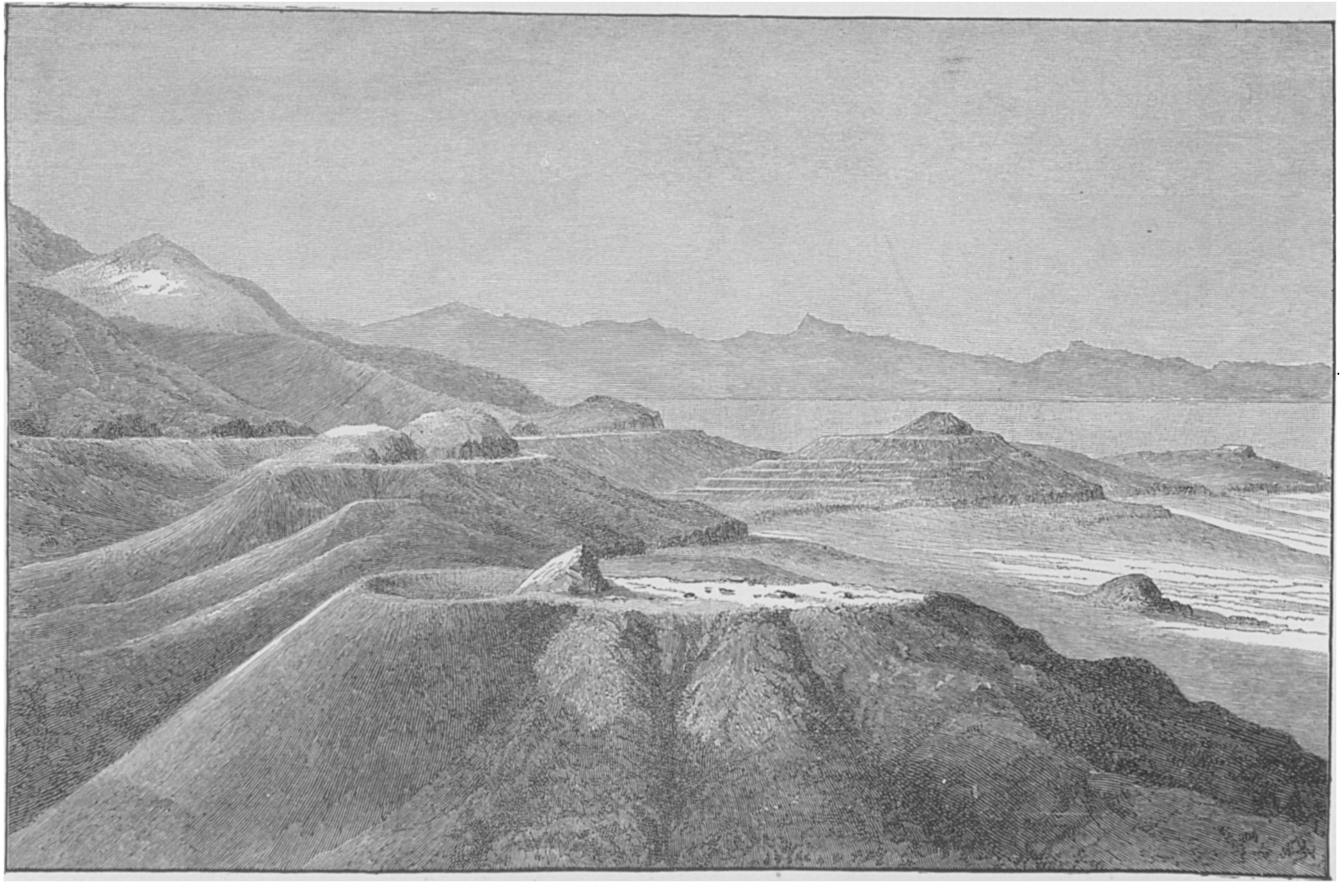
Ancient Sea-cliff in boulder clay, South Manitou Island, Lake Michigan.

PLATE XXVI.



Bird's-eye view of Madison Valley, Montana, showing stream terraces.

PLATE XXVII.



Cup Butte, a vestige of the Bonneville shore-line.

that the impact of waves is not reinforced by the impact of mineral matter borne by them. The detritus worn from the shore is, of course, always at hand to be used by the waves in continuance of the attack; and to this is added other detritus carried along the shore."

The sea cliff and wave-cut terrace are then described and well illustrated; then follow the discussion of littoral transportation, the beach and the barrier. Under the last head the following remarks on the part played by great floods and storms will interest our readers:

" Not only is it true that the work accomplished in a few days during the height of the chief flood of the year is greater than all that is accomplished during the remainder of the year, but it may even be true that the effect of the maximum flood of the decade or generation or century surpasses the combined effects of all minor floods. It follows that the dimensions of the channel are established by the great flood and adjusted to its needs.

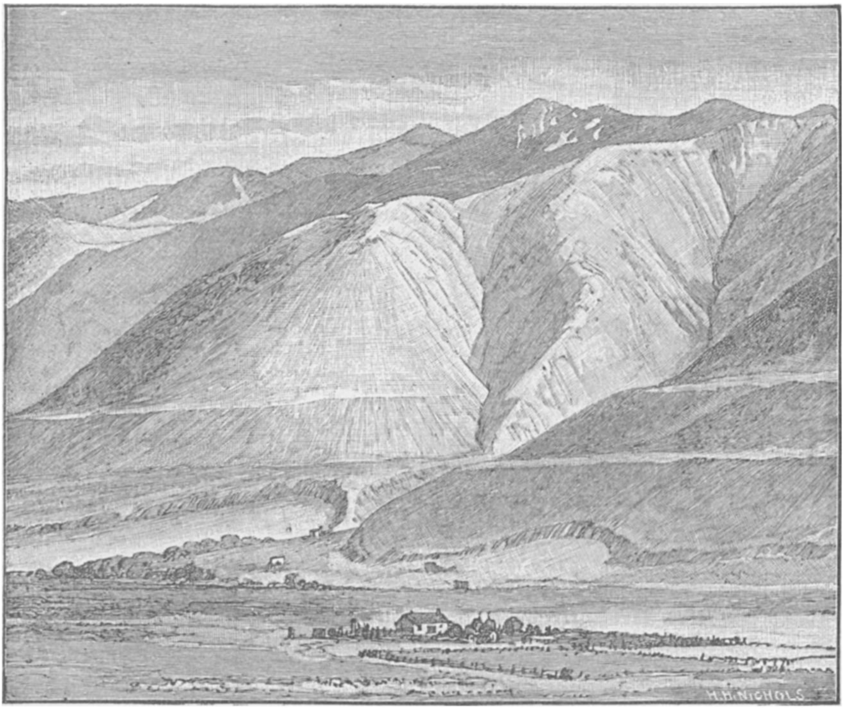


FIG. 2.—Fault scarps and shore lines at the base of the Wasatch.

" In littoral transportation the great storm bears the same relation to the minor storm and to the fair-weather breeze. The waves created by the great storm not only lift more detritus from each unit of the littoral zone, but they act upon a broader zone and they are competent to move larger masses."

Under the head of littoral deposition the origin of embankments, spits, bars, hooks, loops, wave-built terraces, V-terraces, V-bars and of dunes is discussed.

The third section is devoted to the distribution of wave-wrought shore features; a fourth section to stream work and deltas. In a fifth section ice work and shore walls on lakes are described. After referring briefly in section six to the effects of submergence and emergence on the phenomena under consideration, attention is called in the seventh section to the discrimination of shore features, under the head of cliffs, fault scarps, terraces, fault terraces, etc., and ridges, the latter being contrasted with moraines and osars. Fig. 2 gives a good idea of the remarkable fault-scarps at Farmington, Utah. The eighth and last section relates to the recognition of ancient shores.

The essay is upon a subject of very general interest, every geologist having his attention drawn to the phenomena which the author explains. A similar work based on sea-shores would be of still wider interest and importance, though some attention is given to the subject in our leading text-books on geology.

Recent Books and Pamphlets.

Noetling, —.—Descriptions of three species of fossil fishes of the genera Ginglymostoma, Odontaspis and Squatina. Ext. Proc. Gesell. naturforschender Freunde., Feb., 1886. From the author.

Putnam, C. E.—Elephant pipes and inscribed tablets in the Museum of Davenport, Iowa. 1886. From the author.

Dugès, E.—Métamorphoses d'une Corydalis. Ext. du Bull. d. l. Soc. Zool. de France, 1885.

Foote, A. E.—Regla Basalt and el Chico. Naturalist's Leisure Hour, April, 1886. From the author.

Frazer, P.—The work of the International Congress of Geologists and its Committees 1886.

——A new application of the principle of composite photography to the identification of handwriting. Rep. Jour. Franklin Inst., 1886. Both from the author.

Walling, H. F.—Topographic surveys of States. Read bef. Boston Soc. Civil Eng., Feb., 1886. From the author.

Roger, O.—Kleine paläontologische Mittheilungen. From the author.

Renevier, E.—Resultats scientifiques du Congrès Géologique international de Berlin. Lausanne, 1886. From the author.

Van Beneden, P. J.—Les Cétacés des mers d'Europe. Bruxelles, 1885. From the author.

Winchell, A.—Science and the State. Rep. from "The Forum."

——Sources of trend and crustal surplusage in mountain structure. Ext. Proc. Amer. Assoc. Adv. Sci., Vol. XXXIV, 1885.

——Ditto ditto from the Amer. Jour. Science.

——Thoughts on science teaching. From the Fortnightly Index, July 12, 1884. All from the author.

Boulenger, G. A.—A reply to M. de Batta's Remarks on *Rana temporaria*. Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1886.

——Description of a new frog of the genus Megalophrys. Ext. Proc. Zool. Soc., 1885. Both from the author.